THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) The Government has obtained in-principle approval of the Planning Commission for setting up of Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI). PHFI will establish two Indian Institute of Public Health (IIPH) to impart highest quality of public health education in the country. The total cost estimated for establishment of two IIPHs is Rs.200 crores. The proposal envisages contribution from Government of India of only one-third of the total cost, i.e. Rs.65 crores with the balance being met out of private/corporate funds. Out of the two IIPHs proposed, one would be in northern region around Delhi and the other in the Southern region of the country in Tamil Nadu. This initiative seeks to build the Human Resource capacity, which is considered essential to improve public health delivery on a large scale. The proposal is subject to further approvals of Government and participation of Private/Corporate sector.

Measures to enhance medical facilities in towns

1144. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether major hospitals and referral hospitals are located only in cities;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to set up large hospitals/referral hospitals in small towns so that the facilities of such hospitals are easily accessible to people living in hinterlands; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Health being the State subject under the Constitution of India, it is for the State Governments to set up hospitals/referral hospitals in smaller towns subject to their priorities and availability of their resources. However, the Central Government under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) envisages to set up Six AIIMS like institutions at Patna, Raipur, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Jodhpur and Rishikesh.

Water pollution and child mortality

1145. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has the highest mortality rate just